

Application No.: 10/565,383
Amendment dated December 22, 2008
Reply to Office Action of September 22, 2008

Docket No.: 1422-0707PUS1

AMENDED SET OF CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A ~~quality improver for~~ composition for improving the quality of a deep-fried food ~~compared to the quality of the same deep-fried food prepared without said composition, characterized in that the quality improver comprises~~ comprising a polysaccharide powder having an average particle size of 20 µm or less, wherein the polysaccharide is selected from the group consisting of guar gum, pectin, xanthane gum, alginic acid and carboxymethyl cellulose.
2. (Currently Amended) The ~~quality improver for a deep-fried food~~ composition according to claim 1, wherein the polysaccharide powder is obtained by subjecting a polysaccharide to jet pulverization or freeze pulverization.
3. (Currently Amended) The ~~quality improver for a deep-fried food~~ composition according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the polysaccharide is alginic acid, pectin and/or pectin; or a combination of alginic acid and pectin.
4. (Currently amended) A frying powder comprising the ~~quality improver for a deep-fried food~~ composition as defined in claim 1.
5. (Currently amended) A frying food comprising the ~~quality improver for a deep-fried food~~ composition as defined in claim 1.
6. (Currently amended) A deep-fried food prepared by cooking using the ~~quality improver~~

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~~for a deep fried food composition~~ as defined in claim 1, or the frying powder as defined in claim 4.

7. (New) The composition according to claim 1, wherein the average particle size of the polysaccharide powder is 15 μm or less.

8. (New) The composition according to claim 1, wherein the average particle size of the polysaccharide powder is 10 μm or less.

9. (New) The composition according to claim 1, wherein the average particle size of the polysaccharide powder is from 1 to 15 μm .

10. (New) The composition according to claim 1, wherein the average particle size of the polysaccharide powder is from 1 to 10 μm .

11. (New) The composition according to claim 1, wherein the polysaccharide is selected from the group consisting of guar gum, pectin, xanthane gum and carboxymethyl cellulose.

12. (New) The composition according to claim 1, wherein the polysaccharide is selected from the group consisting of guar gum, pectin and alginic acid.